

I genuinely believe that the internet belongs to the public and that no private pipeline has a right to control and use access to the internet as their own profiteering play yard.

A free unfettered internet spurs innovation and expression, furthers free speech, provides a priceless education gateway, broadens understanding, fosters communication and community, spurs economic growth, and gives imagination wings to fly. And No service provider who only offers a connection should have the right to dictate who gets preferential treatment to access the web. They provide a connection. That is all. End of story, they should have no further say about anything else having to do with the internet. It's not up tp these money gougers to dictate how, when, and why I use my access. That would be like a car dealership from which I purchase a car, telling me where I can drive that car, and spying on me to see where I go. And then charging the various States extra money for me to access the interstate in that car.

AT&T and other telcoms have clearly shown their contempt for the average consumer, and for the rule of law, by breaking the laws of privacy, and trampling the Civil rights of American citizens. They have shown themselves to be scofflaws. We need strong rules for internet neutrality, with no loopholes they can wiggle through, in order to safeguard our continued freedom of access, and to prevent these big companies from hijacking the internet and making it their personal playgrounds, and profit engines.

I feel very uncomfortable with these big companies not having any kind of regulations or rules limiting their interference with internet traffic, because at some point it will devolve into their holding internet access hostage to the highest bidders. They have no right to control the internet. They didn't invent it but they profit from it. And they're not satisfied. They're like some huge ravening beasts that won't stop until they consume, and control every bit that is received or sent.

These companies need to be harnessed and muzzled, and reminded that they are subject to laws as well, and they only provide access. They provide a service which we pay for. The internet is not their own little kingdom in which they are the dictators and we are the poor ragged peons with no alternative but to endure their ever escalating demands for more and more money, and less and less choice over what we can do with the access we pay for.

When I pay good money for a service, or a product, I expect to be able to use it when I want to, the way I choose to, within the bounds of legality, without undue interference. Without having sites I might want to visit made less accessible to me because they don't have big bucks to pay the for preferential treatment. Or the prices of the goods I want to purchase increased exponentially because consumer access has cost the company a lot of moeny. Small companies couldn't compete. The very fact that the telcoms have shown no compunction about using dishonest tactics, and outright lies, to get their way, should set all kinds of alarms ringing for anyone concerned about a free internet. They want to double dip. Charge the consumer for access, and charge websites for consumers having easier

access. It's disgusting, any way you look at it. That's like making television manufacturers pay a premium for consumers to be able to watch cable programming on each television they sell.

I truly hope that in this case the FCC will regulate the ISPs and their attempts to gain control of the internet for private gain, and pass strong Net Neutrality rules that will ensure that the internet is not gutted for corporate profits. And to prevent ISPs from bringing the growth and development of the internet to a grinding halt by insuring unfettered and open access to everyone without interference by nothing more than connection providers. ISPs already charge too much money for less service than other countries, and they want to extort more money with no increase in value of services. They have made no effort to update or upgrade the 'grid' for internet services, and the cost for GB of usage has decreased every year. So that leaves only greed and desire for consolidated control. And we have already seen how they have no regard for law. And that is with laws in place.

I have witnessed some of the most disgusting profits made by companies, at the expense of lives, in the last few years. And these companies will NOT do the right thing on their own. They have no respect for life, health or liberty. Their only concern is for more profits, and no amount of money is ever enough. That is abundantly clear, The only reason they want no rules is so they can run roughshod over consumers.

So please think carefully and do what the FCC was founded for in the first place. Protect consumers and the public by protecting the internet and keeping it free the way it was intended to be.